

## ORLEANS COUNTY MONITOR

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## PROHIBITION FOR VERMONT.

Anent the discussion in the Vermont press since the prohibition party placed in nomination their candidates for state office, and the added zest given to the agitation by the announcement of a selected committee by the anti-saloon league to draw up and present a prohibitory law to the legislature next fall, the Monitor desires to add its mite. First, let us say that the Monitor stands for prohibition, and a prohibition law for Vermont, and will attempt to make clear its position.

As we understand the inherent principle of government, it is established for the benefit, protection and security of the people at large. With this fundamental truth in mind we cannot see how the licensed sale of liquors as a beverage works for the benefit, protection or security of the common people at large when it is conceded by practically all mankind, abstainers, moderate consumers and heavy drinkers alike, that no actual benefit comes to the consumer himself, his family or his offspring, from alcoholic liquors when used as a beverage. Science proves and statistics show that alcoholic beverages are harmful to the body and mind. What man concedes, science proves, and statistics verify, must be admitted.

Indeed the Monitor believes that the legalizing of the sale of alcoholic liquors might, along this line of thinking, be almost termed unconstitutional, for we cannot show that the legislature can legalize anything that is detrimental to the public health and safety.

Viewed in this light, the matter comes down to that of personal liberty, privilege and rights. On this ground, many claim that prohibition is an interference in private affairs. If this be true, then how can the state legislature say to the village of St. Johnsbury that it shall not furnish or the citizens use water from a certain supply? The defense was made along the very line that the action was a violation of personal liberty of the citizens and that the board of health or state had no right to punish those who used the water. Chief Judge John W. Rowell said in his decision:

"As to personal liberty, our Bill of Rights declares that government is or ought to be instituted for the common benefit, protection and security of the people, nation, or community, and not for the particular emolument or advantage of any single man, family or set of men in that community."

We further said that the legislature had the right to enact and enforce such reasonable rules and regulations as would protect the health and safety of the greatest number of people.

Arguing along the lines of local option, St. Johnsbury might, if she chose to do so and she did, use water that was detrimental to the public health and safety of the people at large. The state allows no local option or personal privilege to stand in the way here.

The Monitor must admit that the conditions under many prohibition laws are not ideal and that in some cases license may work to better advantage than prohibition, but the Monitor does not believe in the principle of licensing the sale of liquors as a beverage and for that reason stands for a prohibition law, the best that can be devised.

The Enosburg Standard has joined the St. Johnsbury Caledonian in bolting the head of the republican ticket next fall. One thing is certain. That these papers will be in line to get aboard Colonel Roosevelt and Gifford Pinchot's new party when it is launched.

Regarding the St. Albans editorial headed "Locking Stable Doors," in reply to a Monitor editorial squib, copied elsewhere, the Monitor wishes to say that it is in hearty accord with the desires for better politics. The Monitor believes the campaign recently under discussion is an improvement over many in the past, and hopes for and is willing to aid in a fight for still better things in the future.

"There is a big strike on the Central Vermont railroad. It is nothing new for the trains to be delayed, but it is a little unusual to have the trains cancelled altogether."—Barton Monitor.

Softly, brother, softly. The train service on the Central Vermont railroad in the past two years has been first-class as hundreds of thousands of satisfied passengers will testify. Indeed, it has been far better than the Boston and Maine in whose jurisdiction the Monitor lives, for instance,

times without number the Central Vermont has waited at White River Junction for Boston and Maine trains and then made up the lost time climbing Roxbury mountain and delivered people and mails on the dot. It is easy to knock a railroad; not so easy to run one.—St. Albans Messenger.

The Messenger is always a little touchy on C. V. criticism. The Messenger's standing item "Owing to delays on the B. & M." such and such a C. V. train was late, is coming to be a joke on this side of the state. Anyway, the Messenger has credited the Monitor above with something some other paper said. Lapsus calami.

## WHAT THE PAPERS SAY.

## Democratic Party Growing.

Over five hundred delegates attended the democratic state and district conventions in St. Albans yesterday. The democratic party in Vermont is larger and more mobile than it was when the late George M. Stearns invited it to be addressed by him in his back yard.—Boston Journal.

## J. O. U. A. M. Launch Paper.

The Vermont Junior devoted to the interests of the Junior Order United American Mechanics and edited by the state councilor, W. H. Jeffrey, is the latest publication to be launched in Vermont. It is published at East Burke and will be issued quarterly. The first issue makes a very creditable appearance.—St. Johnsbury Caledonian.

## Exceptionally Able Man.

All Vermonters interested in the protection of fish and game will be pleased to know that John W. Titcomb has accepted the appointment as fish and game commissioner of Vermont. It will mean new life to this work and with his thorough knowledge of fish and animal life, Mr. Titcomb will put Vermont in the front rank of states in this line of conservation.—St. Johnsbury Caledonian.

## \$20 Obituaries.

If there is one thing that torments an editor more than anything else it is to publish a \$15 or \$20 obituary notice about some old prominent citizen who never had the manhood to take his county paper. Editors frequently put in such notices at request of relatives and friends, but it grinds them to eulogize a man who was too stingy to support his home paper. A three line notice is all such fellows deserve.—Penacook (N. H.) News-Letter.

## Stay Where You Are.

Statistics show that the tide of emigration to Canada from the United States has passed the high water mark, because those who have journeyed to the great British northwest have not always found the El Dorado they were seeking. The bag of gold at the foot of the rainbow just over the hill always has attraction never possessed by the diamond fields in the old home front yard.—St. Johnsbury Republican.

## Regarding Town Representatives.

The Anti-Saloon league has appointed a committee of leading men in the state to formulate a new act to be presented to the next legislature, providing for state prohibition. It is evident that very important work is ahead of the next lawmaking body that gathers at Montpelier. It is also reported that the corporations and railroads will try and remove the vitals from the Public Service act. It is daily becoming more and more evident that the wisest, the best, and the most incorruptible men should be sent to represent the several towns in the house. Send no man who wants it because it is his turn. Send no man that the railroads or corporations can control or buy.—Vergennes Vermonter.

## More 1912 Talk.

Although the State election is six weeks away and it will be full two years before another governor of Vermont is to be nominated, some of the newspapers on the east side of the state are already discussing the gubernatorial possibilities of 1912. The array of talent already mentioned is a decidedly impressive one and includes this strong quartette: Theodore N. Vail of Lyndon, Maxwell Evarts of Windsor, Allen M. Fletcher of Cavendish and Joseph A. DeBoer of Montpelier. It cannot fail to be a matter of pride of the entire state that four men of the eminent qualifications of these named off-hand for the highest office in the gift of the people. Any one of them is of material suitable for the executive headship of any state in the Union.—Rutland News.

## A Chance for Vermont Boys.

In making possible the opening of a school of agriculture in connection with the Lyndon Institute—as outlined in another column—T. N. Vail makes a definite move in the direction of that New Vermont about which some of us have been talking of late; and the public appreciation of that gentleman's generosity can have no more complete demonstration than by a prompt acceptance on the part of many of the young men of the state of this opportunity to perfect themselves in a calling of so vital importance to the permanent prosperity of the commonwealth. There are no handicaps, and no strings, attached to the proposition. It is open to every boy or young man who has an ambition to develop himself along practical lines and the extent to which it is to be taken advantage of will be watched with more than ordinary interest.—Ludlow Tribune.

## Stay in Vermont.

Those Vermonters that are afflicted with the western fever—especially that type of unrest which leads them to regard the Northwest as the most desirable Mecca at the present time on the footstool—might be benefitted, if not entirely cured, by reading the reports from the two Poultry men who are in Montana. They have just taken a drive of 500 miles in Montana and Wyoming and report that that entire section of the country is practically parched and that cattle are dying by the thousands for lack of water and grass. These reports and others like them rather justify the News in its frequent contention that Vermont

offers, in agricultural and in every other line of business, as good opportunities as, if not better, than can be found anywhere in the world. The same amount of hard work and of privation in this state will bring any man as good returns here as the pioneer gets in the new country.—Rutland News.

## A Sportsmanlike Suggestion.

Sportsmen in the northern part of the state are suggesting that the small trout streams of the state, those in which the fish seldom grow to legal length, be closed permanently and regularly stocked from year to year so that they will become valuable feeders to the larger streams and ponds. In the adoption of such a plan as this, we think lies the improvement of the trout fishing in Vermont. Scores of such streams are located in each county. They are large enough to make excellent rearing places for young trout, but seldom contain fish of legal length unless it is during the spawning season. And yet these small streams are continually being fished by persons by whom the six inch limit is held in contempt, and after every such visitation the supply of legal fish for next season is materially lessened. The idea of permanently closing small streams is not a new one in the state. It has been agitated by a few sportsmen for years, and if it could be made into law, its wisdom would soon be proven.—Brattleboro Reformer.

## Locking Stable Doors.

"Quoting that part of The Monitor's editorial of two weeks ago in which we said the spending of large sums of money in pre-convention campaigns was not the ideal political situation, The St. Albans Messenger said: "The Messenger has no disposition to keep nagging on some phases of the campaign that have been out of the way by the verdict of the state convention, but it must remain true to what it believes to be the principle involved in the whole contest. So it congratulates the esteemed Monitor upon admitting, after this horse has been stolen, that it is willing to lock the stable door."

Let's see, it was in March or April, 1910, we believe, when The Messenger, after allowing stolen horses in 1906 and 1908, swung the door shut. Now in view of the general belief that the east side is a little slow anyway, and that St. Albans is the town and The Messenger the paper where special lights of premonition usually fall, The Monitor's three or four months behindhand entry is not to be wondered at.—Barton Monitor.

Let's see. It was in 1840, wasn't it, that the Harrison "hard cider" campaign was held? Approved at the time by the men that took part in it, too. What would the esteemed contemporary say of these men if they approved of it today? Is there to be no progress, no elevation of the standing of political ethics, no reaching forward for better things? Or are we foot bound, ball and chain, to our dead past? All that the Messenger argues for in this matter of politics is, not that we shall have a spasm of experiencing religion, come forward for prayers, have an emotional confession, and backslide in a fortnight, but that we shall make each succeeding year show a steady and healthy gain in moral improvement over the year before. That's all that can be expected of us frail sons of Adam and more than Adam did himself.

Why not hitch the wagon to that star and not excuse our recent weakness on the score of past example?—St. Albans Messenger.

## Coming Home to Roost.

In another column we publish the editorial comment of The Plattsburg Press on the result of the republican state convention at which Doctor Mead was nominated for the governorship. The remarks made in that editorial show how the verdict is being received outside the state of Vermont and this outside judgment is most humiliating to all anxious to preserve the good name of Vermont. It brings with new emphasis to the mind of every man, who believes that Vermont should have not simply a good government but the best government possible, the question of whether he shall endorse in its entirety the policy of his party or exercise his supreme right of standing for only such parts of it as shall aid in giving the best government. To our mind the time has come when a healthy independence on the part of the individual voter at the ballot box next September will bring to the state very beneficial results.—St. Johnsbury Caledonian.

We can readily see how a reader of a few journals of the state during the campaign that has just closed, might form a judgment that would be "most humiliating to all anxious to preserve the good name of Vermont." Any person who was a reader of one or more of those Vermont newspapers which were engaged in the effort to defeat Dr. Mead at any cost, might well have gained the idea that Vermont was wicked beyond the hope of redemption. Yet these very papers know, down in their hearts, that it is not true—that the impression that has gained belief in some quarters outside the state is a base libel upon Vermont.

The insinuation, the innuendo, the hints that were kept flying back and forth during the campaign—unsportsmanlike by proof of any kind—and circulated for a political purpose only—to defeat the honorable ambition of a deserving candidate, are bearing their natural fruits outside the state where the true facts are not known and it is to the shame of the newspapers who are responsible for them. The Caledonian, evidently not satisfied with the evil already done in its unsuccessful attempt to drag a representative citizen down, now refuses to be bound by the choice of the majority of delegates of the party which it pretends to represent. This is rather a serious step to take and we hope the editor of our esteemed contemporary has not taken it without due consideration. If the step should result to his own serious injury it would not be the first example of suffering, following hasty action inspired by disappointment over defeat.

But whether the Caledonian suffers defeat or not is not half so important as that the state should suffer as it undoubtedly does by the false impression that has gone out as a result of the unfounded charges that were

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made against Dr. Mead during his campaign for the nomination to the high office of governor.

When the excuse is given to the Plattsburg Press, the mouthpiece of one of the most notoriously corrupt political machines in New York state, where corruption has had some resourceful devotees, to hold its hands up over Vermont's short-comings, the extent of the harm done may be somewhat appreciated. The Press evidently has gained the impression from the "anything to beat Mead" newspapers that Vermont is more steeped in corruption than Clinton county, which has been a stench in the nostrils of honest men in New York for years. How deeply degrading this opinion really is, can only be appreciated by a newspaper like the Press, which has been so closely conversant with the politics of northern New York.—Burlington Clipper.

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## Sherlock Holmes in Paris.

The subjoined item appeared in a French newspaper:  
"There was found in the river this morning the body of a soldier cut to pieces and sewed up in a sack. The circumstances seem to preclude any suspicion of suicide."—Everybody's Magazine.

## STATE NEWS

## Will Be Record Hay Crop.

Farmers in the vicinity of South Royalton are securing what is said to be the largest hay crop ever harvested in that part of the state. The barns will be overflowed. A shortage of water is reported unless heavy rains fall soon.

## Fish and Game League Outing Cancelled.

The Vermont Fish and Game league will have no summer outing this year because of the inability of President Taft to be present. Secretary H. G. Thomas of Stowe, has received notice from President Maxwell Evarts to that effect. The destruction of the historic Hotel Champlain made necessary a change in plans for the outing that President Taft was unable to meet.

## Instantly Killed by Cave-in.

Ira Baker, of Danby, aged 21 years was caught by a cave-in and instantly killed, and Edward Gurry received injuries that will probably terminate fatally, while working on a night shift at the West Rutland quarry of the Clarendon Marble company. Wednesday night, without warning several tons of soil and rocks tumbled to the bottom of the pit. Baker was almost completely buried, while Gurry was knocked to one side.

## Walden Children Die of Scarlet Fever.

Bernard Woodard, aged nine years and his sister Celia, aged three years died within a week of each other a short time ago, with scarlet fever, at their home in Walden. Mr. Woodard spent about a year in California when, deciding that he preferred Vermont to that state, he returned. While on the way here, the boy contracted the disease and the little girl took it from him, they being the only children in the family.

## Titcomb Accepts Fish and Game Commission.

John W. Titcomb, formerly one of the fish and game commissioners of Vermont under the old law and now in the employ of T. N. Vail of Lyndonville, has accepted the appointment as state commissioner of game and fisheries, to succeed Henry G. Thomas of Stowe, resigned, and will take the office August 1. Mr. Titcomb has had a wide experience in this business, was for a number of years chief of the bureau of fish culture of the United States government at Washington, and is recognized as one of the most expert authorities on this subject in the country.

## DeBoer Not a Candidate.

Joseph A. DeBoer announced that he will not be a candidate for re-election as representative from Montpelier in the legislature. Mr. DeBoer said that after a careful review of the entire question sufficient private and business reasons exist to warrant him in the conclusion that it will be necessary for him to decline a nomination if tendered. He further said he profoundly appreciates the goodwill toward him both at home and throughout the state but is obliged to conclude with regret that he cannot stand for a further election.

## Held on a Forgery Charge.

Harold Stiles, of Waterford, is being held for the Caledonia county court on the charge of forgery. He made overtures to a St. Johnsbury dealer for the purchase of a motor cycle and was informed that the price was \$275. He then went over to the Citizens bank and got a check book, pretending it was for T. H. Lister, of Waterford. He then filled it in for \$275, payable to "George Steele" whom he pretended to be, and signed it "P. H. Racete." Then he took the check to the dealer and offered it in payment for the machine, but the dealer was suspicious and made an investigation that landed Stiles in jail.

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